

Appl. No. 10/072,672
Amdt. dated Mar. 30, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action of Dec. 7, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a server and at least one remote session client, the method comprising:

participating in the at least one online session by a first session client, wherein participation includes receiving and accumulating a plurality of session information for the at least one online session from the server; and

initiating a transfer of the plurality of session information for the at least one online session to a second session client so as to enable the second session client to seamlessly continue the at least one online session in place of the first session client after the transfer of the session information.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

storing at least one transfer client profile associated with at least one of a plurality of session clients, wherein the initiating a transfer step includes choosing the second session client from the at least one stored transfer client profile.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first session client operates within a first session device, and further wherein the second session client operates within a second session device.

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Claim 6 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the first session device is a device selected from a group consisting of: a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the second session device is a device selected from a group consisting of: a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first session client and the second session client operate within a session device.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the session device is a device selected from a group consisting of: a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one online session is an online gambling event, and further wherein the plurality of session information comprises one or a combination of information selected from a group consisting of: an event name, an event number, an event description, a navigational path, a gambling house, a start time, an end time, a number of gamblers, a current status, an event monitoring, a URL where results reside, a last URL visited, a type of event, a score, prior history of related events, and event odds.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one online session is an online auction session, and further wherein the plurality of session information comprises one or a combination of information selected from a group consisting of: an item name, an item number, an item description, an item identification, a navigational path, an auction type, an auction house, an end time, a number of bidders, a reserve price, a current status, a URL where results reside, and a sellers store front URL.

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Claim 12 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the initiating a transfer step further comprises:

 sending a session transfer notification from the first session client

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the server informing the server to pass the plurality of session information to the second session client.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the second session client.

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the second session client operates within a session device having a data transfer application and wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the server informing the server to pass the plurality of session information to the data transfer application within the second session device.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the second session client operates within a session device having a data transfer application and wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session client to the data transfer application of the second session device.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the first session client operates within a first session device, wherein the second session client operates within a session device, and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the first session device to the second session device.

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Claim 19 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, further comprising:
prior to the step of receiving the transfer of session information:
launching a data transfer within the second session client, and
sending a session transfer notification from the second session client.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second session client to the server informing the server to pass the session information to the second session client.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the second session client to the first session client.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, wherein the second session client operates within a session device having a data transfer application, the method further comprising:

prior to the step of receiving the transfer of session information:
launching the data transfer application within the session device, and
sending a session transfer notification using the data transfer application within the session device.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 22, wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the session device to the server informing the server to pass the session information to the session device.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 22, wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the session device to the first session client.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 22, wherein the first session client operates within an additional session device, and further wherein the session transfer notification is sent from the session device to the additional session device.

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Claim 26 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, further comprising:

receiving, by the second session client, user input instructing the second session client to connect to an event site on the server associated with the at least one online session;
retrieving, by the second session client, latest information from the event site using the session information; and
storing the latest information retrieved from the event site.

Claim 27 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 26, wherein the server is characterized by a session server identification, and further wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server identification.

Claim 28 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 26, further comprising:

alerting an account user of an online session result contained within the latest information retrieved from the event site when the at least one online session has ended.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 26, further comprising:

notifying an account user of the latest information retrieved from the event site when the at least one online session is active; and
alerting the account user when the session information including the latest information is actionable.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, further comprising:

receiving, by the second session client, an asynchronous event notification from the server instructing the second session client to connect to an event site on the server associated with the at least one online session;
retrieving, by the second session client, latest information from the event site using the session information; and
storing the latest information retrieved from the event site.

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Claim 31 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the at least one online session is an online auction session, and further wherein the asynchronous event notification is one or a combination of notifications selected from the group consisting of: a higher bidder, an auction result, a time remaining, and a new auction with a similar item.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the at least one online session is an online gambling session, and further wherein the asynchronous event notification is one or a combination of notifications selected from the group consisting of: a change in odds, an updated score, a time remaining, a change in position of players on a field, a late breaking news, and a session history.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, further comprising:
retrieving, by the second session client, latest information from an event site on the server associated with the at least one online session using the session information after expiration of an event parameter of the session information; and
storing the latest information retrieved from the event site.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A method as recited in claim 53 [[2]], further comprising:
comparing a current time to an event time;
retrieving, by the second session client, latest information from an event site on the server associated with the at least one online session using the session information when the current time is past the event time; and
storing the latest information retrieved from the event site.

Claim 35 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the second session client operates within a session device, the method further comprising:
determining whether an online account user is in close proximity to the session device prior to the retrieving step, wherein the determination is made without active interaction with the second session client by the online account user; and

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continuing to the retrieving step when the online account user is in close proximity to the session device.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the server is characterized by a session server identification, and further wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server identification.

Claim 37 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, further comprising:

comparing a current time to a range surrounding an event time;

retrieving, by the second session client, latest information from an event site on the server associated with the at least one online session using the session information when the current time is within the range surrounding the event time; and

storing the latest information retrieved from the event site.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the second session client operates within a session device, the method further comprising:

determining whether an online account user is in close proximity to the session device prior to the retrieving step, wherein the determination is made without active interaction with the second session client by the online account user; and

continuing to the retrieving step when the online account user is in close proximity to the session device.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 37, wherein the server is characterized by a session server identification, and further wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server identification.

Claim 40 (previously presented): An online communication system for providing continuity of at least one online session comprising:

at least one online server operable to host the at least one online session, wherein the at least one online session includes a plurality of session information;

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a first session client operable to participate in the at least one online session, store the plurality of session information, and initiate a transfer of the plurality of session information; and

a second session client operable to receive the transfer of the plurality of session information and to participate in the at least one online session in place of the first session client so as to seamlessly continue the at least one online session after the transfer of the session information.

Claim 41 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 40, wherein the first session client operates within a first session device, and further wherein the second session client operates within a second session device.

Claim 42 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 41, wherein the first session device is a device selected from a group consisting of: a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box.

Claim 43 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 41, wherein the second session device is a device selected from a group consisting of: a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box.

Claim 44 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 41, wherein the first session device further comprises a memory for storing at least a transfer client profile associated with the second session device, and further wherein the first session client is operable to transfer the plurality of session information using the transfer client profile.

Claim 45 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 41, wherein the first session device further comprises a first data transfer application for transferring the plurality of session information.

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Claim 46 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 45, wherein the second session device further comprises a second data transfer application for receiving the plurality of session information.

Claim 47 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 40, wherein the first session client and the second session client operate within a session device.

Claim 48 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 47, wherein the session device is a device selected from a group consisting of: a fixed network device, a mobile device, and a cable box.

Claim 49 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 40, wherein the at least one online session is an online gambling event, and further wherein the plurality of session information comprises one or a combination of information selected from a group consisting of: an event name, an event number, an event description, a navigational path, a gambling house, a start time, an end time, a number of gamblers, a current status, an event monitoring, a URL where results reside, a last URL visited, a type of event, a score, prior history of related events, and event odds.

Claim 50 (previously presented): An online communication system as recited in claim 40, wherein the at least one online session is an online auction session, and further wherein the plurality of session information comprises one or a combination of information selected from a group consisting of: an item name, an item number, an item description, an item identification, a navigational path, an auction type, an auction house, an end time, a number of bidders, a reserve price, a current status, a URL where results reside, and a store front URL of a seller.

Claim 51 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the second session client operates within a session device, the method further comprising:

determining whether an online account user is in close proximity to the session device prior to the retrieving step;

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storing the asynchronous event notification when the online account user is determined not to be in close proximity to the session device;

periodically checking whether the online account user is in close proximity to the session device; and

continuing to the retrieving step when the online account user is determined to be in close proximity to the session device.

Claim 52 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the server is characterized by a session server identification, and further wherein the retrieving the latest information step further comprises using the session server identification.

Claim 53 (previously presented): A method for providing continuity of at least one online session between a server and at least one remote session client, the method comprising:

receiving, by a second session client, a transfer of session information associated with at least one ongoing online session between a first session client and a server; and

participating, by the second session client in place of the first session client, in the at least one online session to seamlessly continue the at least one online session after receipt of the session information.

Claim 54 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 53, wherein the second session client operates within a session device, the method further comprising:

determining, by the second session client, whether a user is in close proximity to the session device without active interaction with the session device by the user; and

retrieving, by a second session client, latest information associated with the at least one online session when the user is determined to be in close proximity to the session device.

Claim 55 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 54, wherein the session device includes a motion sensor, and wherein the step of determining whether a user is in close proximity to the session device comprises:

determining whether an output of the motion sensor is greater than a tilt sensor threshold;

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when the output of the motion sensor is greater than the tilt sensor threshold, determining that the user is in close proximity to the session device; and

when the output of the motion sensor is not greater than the tilt sensor threshold and a predetermined time has expired, determining that the user is not in close proximity to the session device.